Application Number: **10/800,917**
Attorney Docket Number: **2923-609**

Dear Ms. Kitts,

Please consider the following proposed examiner's amendment.

Claims 7 and 19 are cancelled because of the lack of clear support for the phrase "improving wound healing and tissue regeneration" of the indicated tissues. Also, claim 6 appears to encompass the supported application in wound-healing and tissue regeneration processes.

Claim 6 is a duplicate of claim 18, claim 11 is a duplicate of claim 20, and claim 15 is a duplicate of claim 21 as amended in the proposed amendment. Therefore, claims 18, 20 and 21 are cancelled.

I will withdraw the restriction requirement as it pertains to claims 12 and 13. However, only the prevention of osteoporosis or arthrosis is supported by the specification. "Prevention" is problematic with respect to patentability. Therefore, claims 12 and 13 are cancelled.

Thank you,
/David Romeo/
571 272 0890

Proposed Examiner's Amendment.

6. A method for treating damage to bone, cartilage, connective tissues, skin, mucous membranes[[,]]or epithelium ~~or teeth~~, comprising administering a protein of the TGFβ family, wherein said protein is encoded by a DNA molecule which comprises a sequence selected from the group consisting of:

(a) the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 1,

(b) a part of SEQ ID NO: 1 which ~~encodes~~ comprises nucleotides 1783-2142 and encodes the mature protein,

(c) a nucleotide sequence which encodes the amino acid sequence according to SEQ ID NO: 2, and

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(d) a nucleotide sequence which encodes the mature protein with amino acids 382-501 according to SEQ ID NO: 2,

to a patient in need of such treatment.

Cancel claims 7–9.

10. A method for treating damage to connective tissues, skin, mucous membranes, or epithelium or for use in connection with dental implants, comprising administering a protein of the TGFβ family, wherein said protein is encoded by a DNA molecule which comprises a sequence selected from the group consisting of:

(a) the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 1,

(b) a part of SEQ ID NO: 1 which ~~encodes~~ comprises nucleotides 1783-2142 and encodes the mature protein,

(c) a nucleotide sequence which encodes the amino acid sequence according to SEQ ID NO: 2 or biologically functional parts thereof, wherein said biologically functional parts have osteoinductive capabilities, and

(d) a nucleotide sequence which encodes the mature protein with amino acids 382-501 according to SEQ ID NO: 2,

to a patient in need of such treatment.

11. The method according to claim 10, further comprising administering a ~~matrix or other~~ carrier, diluent and/or filler along with said protein of the TGFβ family.

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Cancel claims 12 and 13.

14. A method for inducing angiogenesis, comprising administering a protein of the TGFβ family, wherein said protein is encoded by a DNA molecule which comprises a sequence selected from the group consisting of:

(a) the sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 1,

(b) a part of SEQ ID NO: 1 which ~~encodes~~ comprises nucleotides 1783-2142 and encodes the mature protein,

(c) a nucleotide sequence which encodes the amino acid sequence according to SEQ ID NO: 2 or biologically functional parts thereof, wherein said biologically functional parts have osteoinductive capabilities, and

(d) a nucleotide sequence which encodes the mature protein with amino acids 382-501 according to SEQ ID NO: 2,

to a patient in need of such treatment.

15. The method according to claim 14, further comprising administering a ~~matrix or other~~ carrier, diluent and/or filler along with said protein of the TGFβ family.

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Cancel claims 18–21.

22. The method according to claim 6, further comprising administering a ~~matrix or other~~ carrier, diluent and/or filler along with said protein of the TGFβ family.